

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-23 are pending in this application. Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claim 20 is allowed, and claim 2 contains allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, independent claims 1, 18 and 21 are amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 2. Claim 2 is canceled.

Claims 5 and 19 are amended for clarity. See the specification at, for example, paragraph [0116].

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge consideration of the references listed on, and to return an initialed copy of, the Form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement concurrently filed herewith.

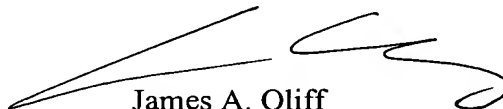
The Office Action objects to the drawings and claims 5 and 19. Claims 5 and 19 are amended, as outlined above, to overcome these objections. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to the drawings and claims 5 and 19 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 4, 6-18 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,979,839 to Murade. This rejection is overcome in view of the incorporation of the subject matter of allowable claim 2 into independent claims 1, 18 and 21. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 6-18 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Information Disclosure Statement

Date: February 20, 2007

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